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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re: Patent application of:
Stephen B. Maguire

Serial No.: 09/883,837

Filed: June 18, 2001

For: LOW PRESSURE DRYER

Group Art Unit: 1732

Examiner: Mark Eashoo

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Commissioner for Patents
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RESPONSE

Sir:

Introductory Comments

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 16, 2003 in which the examiner levied a restriction requirement, creating a six-way restriction requirement dividing the claims pending in the application into six separate groups, with the examiner contending that the invention defined by the claims of each group were distinct from one another on various bases.

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Applicant traverses the restriction requirement in each one of its parts and in whole and requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement for the reasons set forth below under the heading "Remarks".

Without prejudice to the foregoing traverse and in an effort to move this application forward towards examination on the merits and further in accordance with the examiner's requirement for election of one of the groups of claims to be examined even though the restriction requirement be traversed, applicant provisionally elects the claims of group 3 for immediate prosecution in the event the examiner maintains the restriction requirement in light of the remarks herefollowing.